an indigenous company and a multinational company manufacturing product in India.

Investments in Agriculture Sector

1361. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether investment in agriculture sector has decreased to 1.3 per cent in the recent years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken to increase the share of investment in agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The share of Gross Capital Formation (GCF) in Agriculture in the Gross Domestic Product at 1993-94 price has been estimated at 1.3 percent in the year 2000-2001 as well as 2001-2002 as compared to 1.4 percent in 1999-2000. This reflects the decline in public sector investment in Agriculture. However, GCF in Agriculture in absolute terms has increased from Rs. 17304 Crore in 1999-2000 to Rs. 18057 Crore in 2001-2002 at 1993-1994 prices.

(c) Keeping in view the relatively low investment in agriculture vis-a-vis its share in GDP, efforts are being made to boost investment in Agriculture. The Union Budget 2003-04 has proposed a new Central Sector Scheme on Hi-tech Horticulture and Precision Farming. The major components of the scheme are use of hi-tech interventions like fertigation, use of biotechnological tools, green food production, and hi-tech green houses. Further, Government of India have been implementing the following long term programmes:

(i) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) launched during 1996-97 for expeditious completion of ongoing major & medium irrigation projects;

(ii) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP);

(iii) Desert Development Programme (DDP);

(iv) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA);

(v) Integrated Wasteland Development Programme (IWDP); and

(vi) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Scheme (IAEPS).

These programmes would increase capital formation in Agriculture by public sector and also would induce the private sector to increase its investment in Agriculture.

Foodgrains/fruits production in Assam

1362. SHRI DWUENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of target fixed for foodgrains/fruits production during the Tenth Five Year Plan in Assam;

(b) the details of the steps being taken by Government in this behalf; and

(c) the details of investment proposed to be made in the production of foodgrains/fruits in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Tenth Plan production Targets for food grains and fruits fixed by Government of Assam are given below:

Name of the Crop	Production Target (Lakh tonnes)
1. Rice	50.00
2. Wheat	10.00
3. Pulses	2.48
Total food grains	62.48
Fruit Crop	16.10